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A History of Socialism. By THOMAS KIRKUP. London and Edinburgh: Adam and Charles Black, 1882. 12mo., pp. vii. + 301.

THE volume is light, for so large a subject as the title describes, especially as a good portion—perhaps one-third—of the book is taken up with the present and future of socialism rather than with what can properly be called history. It is valuable, not only for the concisely and lucidly written historical sketch of the socialist movement of the present century, but even more for the exposition and criticism of the doctrines as held by the advanced socialists of to-day. The standpoint of the author is that of a sympathetic critic and conservative advocate of socialism.

He does not find it necessary to go back of 1817 for the beginning of modern socialism, "the year when Owen laid his scheme for a socialistic community before the committee of the House of Commons on the poor law, the year also that the speculations of Saint-Simon definitely took a socialistic direction." And with good judgment he gives small space to the narrative of what preceded the revolution of 1848. The socialism with which he deals is the modern socialism in the strictest sense.

In his estimate of the relative importance of the leading socialistic writers the author is hardly at one with opinions currently held by hostile critics of socialism. He gives Marx distinctly the first, and a high rank: "Marx was an independent thinker of great originality and force of character, who had made the economic development of Europe the study of a laborious lifetime, and who was in the habit, not of borrowing, but of strongly asserting the results of his own research and of impressing them upon other men" (p. 129). "In learning and philosophic power, Marx will compare favorably with Adam Smith" (p. 151). He denies Rodbertus the credit of in any special sense originating the modern, "scientific," socialistic body of doctrines, and urges (p. 129) that "it is an absurdity as well as an historical error to speak of Marx as having borrowed from Rodbertus"; and it must be admitted his main position here is true, though perhaps too broadly stated. He finds (p. 122) that Rodbertus's claim to stand as the representative of the ripest manifestation of socialistic thought—"the master-author of the socialist philosophy," as President E. Benj. Andrews puts it¹—is also vitiated by his narrow views of the future of

¹ See *Journal of Political Economy*, No. 1, especially at p. 57.

the movement and his singularly impotent social ideal. Rodbertus's ideal of the socialist state was a monarchy constructed on the lines of narrowly Prussian tradition, a scheme which Mr. Kirkup finds intolerable as well as impossible. At the same time Rodbertus is accorded full credit for his amiable attitude and attractive writing, as well as for his incisive criticism of economic theory.

The author does the socialist writers a service in calling attention (p. 109-110) to the "ignorance or confusion of language of controversialists who maintain that the object of socialism is to abolish capital." It is a service that has often been performed before, but also one of which there is a perennial need. The error in question is one that probably no socialist, anarchist or communist is guilty of, but of which perhaps no one who adheres to or advocates any of these isms has not been accused.

A service of a like candid and kindly nature is the fair and sympathetic statement of the anarchist position (p. 191-195).

Much less creditable is the author's acceptance of the socialist interpretation of Ricardo. He subscribes, more than once (p. 99, 119, 143-4, 147), to the correctness of their rendering of Ricardo's theory of value, as well as of his theory of wages; a slip which a careful reading of Ricardo should have sufficed to prevent.

In his analysis of motive forces and tendencies the author finds that socialism is "simply a movement for uniting labor and capital through the principle of association" (p. 230). The objective point of socialism, and the adequate remedy for the mischief of the capitalistic system, is to be found in the restoration of the masses of the people to a "participation in the ownership and control of land and capital . . . through the principle of association." The term "association" is a little vague, though it may not be easy to find a more definite term that will serve the purpose. The method by which the principle is to find acceptance in practical life is also not clearly indicated; it would be asking too much at present to require that it should, but it is disappointing to find that the author, while enumerating certain other factors that make in the same direction, and speaking with much hope of the prospect ahead, pins his faith to the coöperative movement as, in a special sense, the solvent of the difficulty.

The view is forcibly set forth in the concluding pages of the book that the whole trend of the modern industrial development is distinctly socialistic, and that socialism (collectivism) is but the logical

outcome of the continued growth of democracy under modern conditions.

With due regard for the serious purpose of the book, and for its many excellent features, it is to be said that it falls short of an exhaustive analysis of the social ills on which the socialist movement feeds, as well as of the full scope of the social changes that must be accomplished if the remedy for these ills is to be found in the direction of that movement.

T. B. VEBLEN.

Geschichte des Socialismus und Communismus im 19 Jahrhundert. By Dr. OTTO WARSCHAUER. Leipzig: Gustav Fock, 1892 and 1893. 8vo. *Erste Abtheilung: Saint-Simon und der Saint-Simonismus*, pp. x. + 106. *Zweite Abtheilung: Fourier, Seine Theorie und Schule*, pp. vii. + 131.

THE two installments already published of this work make up but a small part of the book as it will appear when completed. It takes up the history of nineteenth century socialism in greater detail than the volume by Kirkup, and has more of a narrative and expository character. The preface (to part II.) states that "all dependence on second-hand material has been avoided on principle," the aim being to meet the want that exists in economic literature of "a history of socialism drawn directly from original sources."

The author treats his material from the standpoint of economics, and introduces no biographical matter, beyond what is necessary in order to an intelligent discussion from that standpoint. It is (or perhaps better, promises to be) a work of painstaking research, and is exhaustive to the extent which its volume will permit. The summaries of the various doctrines discussed are necessarily somewhat brief, but these, as well as the discussion and the estimates of men and doctrines, are fair and dispassionate.

T. B. V.

Grundriss der Politischen Oekonomie. DR. EUGEN VON PHILIPPOVICH, Professor an der Universität Freiburg. Erster Band. Allgemeine Volkswirtschaftslehre. Freiburg im B. und Leipzig, 1893: J. C. B. Mohr. 1 vol. pp. viii. + 348.

Professor Philippovich offers us in his *Grundriss* a careful and systematic account of Political Economy as the science now stands, after the critical work of the so-called historical school, and the reconstructive work of Jevons and other English writers, and of the